

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1993

MEETINGS AND CALLS FOR PAPERS.

Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington will be the site of a 2-day conference, November 8-9, 1993, that explores biological thought and agricultural practice during Washington's life and times. The Director invites scholars to submit suggestions for papers that may address subjects such as the sources of scientific knowledge, philosophical approaches to husbandry among "gentlemen farmers" on both sides of the Atlantic, specific techniques of plant and animal breeding, plant nutrition and disease control techniques used by Washington and his contemporaries. Speakers will receive accommodations at the estate and travel reimbursement. Those wishing to attend without presenting a paper can have their names added to the invitation list as space permits. A keynote address and reception will take place at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D. C., on the evening of November 8. Please write to: Terry Gibson, Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, Mount Vernon, VA 22121. Deadline for submission of paper topics and author credentials is April 4, 1993; notification of selections will be by April 30, 1993.

The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife invites proposals or papers on the subject of farm animals, domestic pets, and wildlife in New England and adjacent regions of Canada, 1400-1900 for its conference in August, 1993. For information, please contact: Peter Venes, The Dublin Seminar, 249 Harrington Ave., Concord, MA 01742.

The Eleventh International Economic History Congress will be held in Milano, Italy on September 2-17, 1993. Some of the panels are devoted to aspects of agricultural history. Anyone interested in participating in a panel or in attending the congress may obtain information from: Ing. Alessandro Ciarlo, Bocconi Comunicazione, Universita Bocconi, Via Sarfatti 25, 20136, Milano, Italy.

SUMMER SEMINAR. A seminar on "The American West: Environment and History," directed by Donald Worster, will be held at the University of Kansas, from June 7 through July 16, 1993. The seminar is aimed primarily at college teachers. The participants selected will receive stipends to cover their expenses during the six-week seminar. For information, please write to: Professor Donald Worster, American West Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, 211 Watkins Home, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2967.

HEIRLOOM SEEDS. The Landis Valley Museum, 2451 Kissel Hill Road, Lancaster, PA 17601 has issued a catalog describing their heirloom seeds and giving hints on raising vegetables from these or other heirloom seeds.

MINI HISTORIES. In the Heritage Eagle, (Volume 21, Winter 1992/1993 issue), Al Bulin has written a "Mini History of J. I. Case Self-Propelled Combines," Part 2. The 11-page illustrated article gives detailed accounts of the design and changes of the engines of the J. I Case Company during the 1950's. Also in the same issue is a 9-page article by L. H. "Slim" Rennewanz, "Logging in the Minnesota Woods," Part 2-Moving logs. From 1900 to the spring of 1919, an annual log drive started at the headwaters of the Otter Tail at the northeastern end of Big Elbow Lake and ended at Frazee. The author was born and raised around steam power in the logging operation he describes in this story. Back issues of the Heritage Eagle, Numbers 2-5, 7-20 are available while supplies last for \$4.00 each for non-members and \$4.50 each for overseas orders, postage included. Please send requests for copies, along with your check (U.S. currency only) payable to: J. I. Case Heritage Foundation to the Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 5128, Bella Vista, AR 72714-0128.

The Historical Gardener, Fall 1992, pp. 5-6, 12 (2910 West Michigan, #111, Midland TX 79701) features continuing articles such as "In Search of the Landscape of Everyday Life: The 1880 Kitchen Garden of the Firestone Farm, Part I," by Jim Johnson. The recreated 1880's Firestone Farm, the boyhood home of the tire and rubber industrialist, Harvey S. Firestone, stands today in Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. The farm fits right in with the history of innovation and change. It also preserves the common element of America's past, the small middle-class diversified family farm. Also featured as a continuing article is "Vegetable Gardening in the United States: A History, 1565-1900," by Robert F. Becker (pp. 7-8). The Landis Valley Museum historical gardens staff at Lancaster, Pennsylvania have included an article (pp. 8-9) "Pennsylvania German Garden Heritage" and have illustrated an heirloom seed project-historic farms 18th century Pennsylvania German 4-square kitchen garden.

PUBLICATIONS. A South Carolina Album, 1936-1948: Documentary Photography in the Palmetto State, ed. by Constance B. Schultz (University of South Carolina Press, 1716 College St., Columbia, SC 29208. 1992). 143 pp. \$24.95. The book is made up of an introductory essay and of photographs taken in South Carolina under the direction of Roy Stryker while he was in the Farm Security Administration, the Office of War Information, and the Standard Oil Company.

National Indian Agriculture Profile, by the Intertribal Agriculture Council (Intertribal Agriculture Council, 100 North 27th St., Suite 500, Billings, MT 59101-2054. 1992). It has capsule histories of each reservation. For further information about the IAC or Indian Agriculture, please call: (406) 259-3525.

Agriculture, Geology, and Society in Antebellum South Carolina: The Personal Diary of Edmund Ruffin, 1843, ed. by William M. Mathew (University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA 30602. 1992). 368 pp. \$50.00. This diary by one of the South's outstanding agricultural reformers, presents the most detailed and authoritative report on South Carolina between 1826 and the 1850's.

A History of the Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District, by Nancy Smyre (Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District, P. O. Box 389, Newton, NC 28658. 1992). 19 pp. \$2.00. The book was prepared as part of the celebration of the sesquicentennial of Catawba County, North Carolina. It is the first such history of a district

produced in North Carolina and significant, in part, because John Daniel Miller worked in the district from 1938 until retirement in 1962. Miller was the soil conservationist for the first farm conservation plan produced in the Brown Creek Soil Conservation District in Hugh Hammond Bennett's native Anson County.

FELLOWSHIP IN THE HISTORY OF HOME ECONOMICS OR NUTRITION. The New York State College of Human Ecology at Cornell University and Cornell's Mann Library offer summer or sabbatical fellowship(s) of \$3,500-\$5,000 to provide support toward research on the history of home economics or nutrition and their impact on American society. Mann Library and the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Olin Library have extensive holdings in home economics, nutrition, agriculture, and related sciences. Minimum residence is 6 weeks. Deadline is April 19, 1993; Decisions by May 10, 1993. Please send a short (3-5 pp.) proposal of the research planned, specifying both published and manuscript materials to be used from the Cornell collection; a vita; a writing sample or previous publication; and 2 letters of recommendation to: Office of the Dean, College of Human Ecology, N113 MVR Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. For questions, please call (607) 257-0568 or (607) 255-8053 or FAX (607-255-3794).

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:

VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4788.



THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 1993

CALL FOR PAPERS. The Dinsmore Homestead Foundation of Burlington, Kentucky is sponsoring a symposium, "Women in 19th Century Rural America," October 8-9, 1993 at Florence, Kentucky (near Cincinnati, Ohio). Abstracts of papers should include historical questions about rural women and their involvement in agriculture, technology, economics, labor, transportation, and social issues. Deadline for abstracts is May 28, 1993. For specific information on submission of abstracts, please contact: Symposium Committee, The Dinsmore Homestead Foundation, P. O. Box 453, Burlington, KY 41005. (606) 586-6127.

The 28th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference will be held in Pierre, South Dakota, September 29 to October 2, 1993. Proposals for papers, panels, and sessions in all areas of history and history-related subjects are welcome. The conference will highlight the anniversary of the Turner frontier thesis. Proposals, consisting of a one-page prospectus and a brief vita, should be sent on or before March 31, 1993 to: Nancy Tystad Koupal, Program Chair, Publications Program, South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2217.

The 34th Annual Western History Association Conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 20-23, 1994 with the theme title of "The West: Diverse Visions." Several sessions include the Twentieth-century West, the Civilian Conservation Corps, three round tables will consider recent scholarly works and one will come to grips with the question of "Where the West Begins." A brief summary of prospective papers, with participant names and a short paragraph on each presenter, chair and commentator will be most useful. Proposals should be sent by September 1, 1993 to the committee chair: Melody Webb, P.O. Box 308, Moose, Wyoming 83012. Those who submit proposals will be notified of their status by February 1, 1994.

MEETINGS. The Agricultural History Society will hold its annual meetings on Saturday, April 17, 1993, in the Anaheim Hilton Hotel, Anaheim,

California, in cooperation with the annual meetings of the Organization of American Historians. The Society's Executive Committee will hold a breakfast meeting at 7:30 a.m., April 17, 1993, in the Executive Board Room of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel. The annual luncheon meeting will be held on the same day at 12:00 noon in the Palisades Room of the Anaheim Hilton. A short business meeting, including the announcement of winners of prizes, will be followed by the presidential address by Joan Jensen, entitled "The Death of Rosa: Sexuality in Rural America." Luncheon tickets are \$22.00 each and are being handled by the Organization of American Historians. However, those planning on attending only the Agricultural History Society meetings may send requests for tickets, with payment, to the Society's Secretary-Treasurer, Wayne D. Rasmussen, 3907 Ridge Road, Annandale, VA 22003, by April 5.

"Of Media and Messages," the 1993 Annual Conference of the Association for Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums will be hosted by the Minnesota Historical Society at the New Minnesota History Center in St. Paul, June 19-24. The conference will explore the application of a variety of media to the teaching of rural history, including--and beyond living history. Sessions and hands-on workshops will teach us expertise and skills in many fields to those interested in the interpretation of agriculture and rural life. Seven all-day workshops are planned, including "steam operations" and "care of livestock at historic sites." "Agriculture" will be discussed in one of the 30 formal sessions which are divided into five tracks. For registration materials, please contact registration coordinator: Gail Ede, Historic Sites Department, MHS, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West, St. Paul, MN 55102.

PUBLICATION. Forest Service Centennial History Bibliography, 1891-1991, compiled by Terry West and Dana E. Supernowicz (USDA Forest Service, History Unit, Auditors Bldg., 2-C, Washington, DC 20250. 1993). 59 pp. This list is arranged by national forests and experiment

stations. Available on a limited basis.

CURRENT JOURNALS. The Fall 1992 issue of Agricultural History contains the following articles: "Henry A. Wallace and Irrigation Agriculture," by Richard Lowitt; "Science and Agricultural Progress: Quantitative Evidence from England, 1660-1780," by Joshua Lerner; "Populism, Law, and the Corporation: The 1897 Kansas Supreme Court," by James L. Hunt; and "A Weighty Issue Revisited: New Evidence on Commercial Swine Weight and Pork Production in Mid-Nineteenth Century America," by Timothy Cuff. The journal also contains a bibliography, "Significant Books on Agricultural History Published in 1990," by Earl M. Rogers and Susan H. Rogers. Copies are available for \$8.00 from the University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Allan G. Bogue discusses "The Significance of the History of the American West: Postscripts and Prospects," in the February 1993 issue of the Western Historical Quarterly. Copies are \$5.50 from: Western Historical Quarterly, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-0740.

"The Prickly Pear Menace in Eastern Australia," by Donald B. Freeman, Geographical Review, October 1992, suggests that the conquest of the pest was due more to luck than to cohesive policy. Issues are \$18.00 from the Geographical Review, Suite 600, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

LIFE BEFORE NINTENDO. In the Down on the Farm newsletter (Vol. 2, No. 1 February, 1993), of The Pomeroy Living History Farm, 20902 N.E. Lucia Falls Road, Yacolt, Washington 98675, is a first in a series of three articles describing the school programs PLHF. The title of this program is "Children's Work and Play on a Pre-electrical Farm," which allows young students in grades 2-3 to discover for themselves the activities farm children carried out of a daily basis in the 1920's. Students are divided into small groups and experience a two-hour field trip of hands on domestic chores such as: churn butter, peel potatoes, feed chickens and collect the eggs, pump water for livestock, grind corn, only to name a few.

MIGRANT WORKERS ARCHIVES. A Migrant Agricultural Workers Archives has recently been started by the University Library at Cornell. The purpose is to preserve for scholarly use primary source material concerning migrant farm workers in New York State, the Atlantic Coast, and elsewhere in the United States. Examples of

materials being sought include workers' diaries and letters, earnings records, photographs, unpublished research materials, and migrant program records. Oral histories of migrant workers will be included in the collection. William Friedland, University of California-Santa Cruz has contributed the field notes for his farm worker studies in New York, 1968-69, and in California 1969. Gould Colman, archivist in the Library's Rare and Manuscript Collections, is in charge of the new Archives. The Cornell Migrant Program, based in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, College of Human Ecology, is coordinating the acquisition of materials. For more information, please contact: Gould Colman, Kroch Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. (607) 255-3530.

CORRECTION. The author of A History of the Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District is Davyd Foard Hood. This 19-page book is available for \$2.00 from: Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District, P. O. Box 389, Newton, NC 28658.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to: VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor, Agricultural and Rural History Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA, 1301 New York Ave. N.W., Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-4788.



Q 5419
A 46

THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 3

MARCH 1993

CALL FOR PAPERS. The National Council on Public History solicits papers, workshops, and presentations for its March, 1994 annual meeting to be held in Sacramento, California. The theme of the conference will be "Public History and the Environment." Proposals should be sent by July 1, 1993 to: Alan S. Newell, P. O. Box 7086, Missoula, MT 59807-7086.

HISTORICAL CHART. The Agricultural and Rural History Section, Economic Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, issued a chart, "The History of American Agriculture, 1775-1990," in January 1993. The chart is illustrated in color and is arranged topically. The topics are economic cycles, farm economy, farmers and the land, farm machinery and technology, crops and livestock, transportation, life on the farm, farm organizations and movements, agricultural education and extension, and governmental programs and policies. For information on cost and ordering, please call: 1-800-999-6779 and ask for Post 11.

MEETING. The 12th Lowell Conference on Industrial History will be held on June 3-5, 1993 in the Sheraton Inn Lowell, Lowell National Historical Park at Lowell, Massachusetts. The conference will explore the connections between the slavery system of the South and the textile industry of the North. Participants will address a range of concerns pertaining to the interpretation of the overall African-American experience. The conference features workshops, media and living history presentations, panel discussions, and speakers.

CURRENT JOURNALS. Evelyn M. Martin traces the various claims for land use on Mt. Graham, Arizona, over the past century, in "The Last Mountain," American Forests, March/April 1993. These range from forestry and agricultural to military and astronomical uses. The questions are presently complicated by the claims that it is the only habitat of the red squirrel and that the land is sacred to the Apache Indians. The American Forest Association, P. O. Box 2000, Washington, DC 20013 has copies for \$6.00 each.

A substantial number of women in the states west of the Mississippi River were employed as agricultural laborers as recorded in the Census of 1870. Michael Bargo tabulates occupations of those women listed by the census as gainfully employed in 1870 in "Women's Occupations in the West in 1870," Journal of the West, 15(1) Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan, KS 66502-4228.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION is constructing an Archives II building in College Park, Maryland. In 1989, National Archives officials, after consultation with researchers and historical and other organizations, made preliminary decisions on the allocation of records between the new building and Archives I. Categories of records that were to remain in Archives I included Congressional and Supreme Court records, genealogical records, records related to the American Indian, Navy and pre-World War II Army records, and some small miscellaneous record groups. U. S. Department of Agriculture records are among these going to Archives II. This revised allocation of records between the two buildings means that when the move is completed in 1996, researchers will be able to do most of their research work in one building. While some research projects will always require looking at records in both buildings, they will hopefully be minimized. Researchers can request a full list of the transferred records from: the Regional Archives System, (NSR-WO), National Archives, Washington, DC 20408. If you have questions about the National Archives moves of records in the Washington, DC area, or for a copy of the latest edition of National Archives Primary Reference Contact List with the names and telephone numbers of archivists for over 100 topics of research interest, please write to: Textual Reference Division (NNR), National Archives, Washington, DC 20408.

COLE HARBOUR HERITAGE FARM MUSEUM, 471 Poplar Drive, Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia, CANADA, B2W 4L2, is a non-profit community museum operated independently by the

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society. Research, collections and exhibits are developed around three themes: The saltmarsh, farming in Cole Harbor, and going to market. In 1976, the Society moved the oldest remaining house in Cole Harbour along the Cole Harbour Road to a 2 1/2 acre site provided by the Nova Scotia Department of Housing, and established a community farm museum. The new site already contained a house and buildings and had been farmed successfully since the early 1800's. Exhibits include farm and household equipment, historic and contemporary documents, photos, gardens and livestock. A farmers' market is held on the site every Saturday morning during the summer. Other programs are being developed. A "Fish Fest" buffet is held in June and "Settlers Supper," with period entertainment, is held in August each year.

THE VERMONT HERITAGE SERIES presents a new look at the state on eight individual videocassettes brought to you by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. The programs have been produced on video by Perceptions, Inc. of Charlotte with a grant from the National Park Service for use by teachers, municipal planning groups, state agencies, historical and museum organizations. Vermont's social and political history provides the background for the videos. Each explores a separate topic such as agriculture, industry and commerce, and transportation from the earliest days to the present. Featured are the houses, barns, churches, mills, factories, bridges and more. "A Vermont Heritage: Agricultural Buildings and Landscapes" (21 minutes) is available from: Perceptions, Inc., RR 1, Box 1590, Charlotte, VT 05445, (802) 425-2783, or FAX (802) 425-3628 (Activates after 6th ring). Each of the eight programs ranges in length from 15 to 30 minutes. For further information, please contact: Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, 135 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1201 or call: (802) 828-3226.

POMEROY LIVING HISTORY FARM is an educational museum that depicts 1920'S farm life in the pre-electrical era of the rural Pacific Northwest. The farmstead is listed on the National Register of Historic Properties. Continuously lived on by the Pomeroy's and their descendants since 1910, the farm provides a sensory experience as guests are invited to participate in the farm's varied activities. Assisted by costumed interpreters, visitors may grind corn and coffee, wash clothes on a scrubboard, use a stereopticon, feed and pet the animals, pump water, use a crosscut logging saw, and many other

activities. The farm is open to the public the first full weekend of the month, June through October. For information please contact: Pomeroy Living History Farm, 20902 N.E. Lucia Falls Road, Yacolt, Washington 98675, (206) 686-3537.

DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM AND VILLAGE, 866 North DuPont Highway, Dover, Delaware 19901, are featuring an exhibit, "Grandpa's Shop and Grandma's Attic" opened to the public on April 1, 1993 and will be on display through March, 1994. The exhibit features re-created scenes of a farmer's workshop and a farm families' attic. Because the farmer had to be a "jack of all trades," you will see many tools which allowed the farmer to do everything from repairing a plow to making a toy. A visit to "Grandma's Attic," where worn-out clothing, canning jars, a doll carriage, newspaper clippings, household equipment, pictures, linens and more were stored, demonstrates the adage "waste not, want not." Visitors are invited to sit on a replica of a shaving horse and pretend to make a shingle and/or try on clothes from "grandma's trunk." The Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village, a private, non-profit organization, is located just south of Delaware State College on Route 13 in Dover. For further information, please call: (302) 734-1618.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:
VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4788.



THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBERS 4-5

THE DUBLIN SEMINAR FOR NEW ENGLAND FOLKLINE in conjunction with Boston University's Program in American and New England Studies, Historic Deerfield, and Plimouth Plantation will present the "New England's Creatures: 1400-1900," August 6-8, 1993 at Eaglebrook School, Deerfield, Massachusetts. The 3-day conference will be on the subject of farm animals, wildlife, domestic pets, and animal lore in New England and its adjacent regions (including New France and the Hudson River valley) from 1400 to the close of the nineteenth century. The 21 lectures and presentations include: husbandry practices, the breed improvement movement of the 19th century, and the historic recreation of farm animals. Selected and edited transcripts of conference papers will appear as the 1993 Annual Proceedings of the Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife. For further information, please contact: Peter Benes, Director, The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife, 249 Harrington Ave., Concord, MA 01742. (508) 369-7382.

SEMINARS. The New York Historical Association is conducting seminars at Cooperstown, New York, on July 7-10 and July 11-14, 1993. Several of the subjects offered relate to agriculture and rural life. Registrants may receive continuing education credits. For further information, please write: Seminars on American Culture, New York State Historical Association, P. O. Box 800, Cooperstown, NY 13226. (607) 547-2533.

GRANTS. The Forest History Society offers travel grants for those wishing to utilize its library and archival resources and its bibliographic and archival information bank for North American forest and conservation history. Please write: Forest History Society, 701 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701 for information.

CURRENT JOURNALS. Thornton W. Mitchell traces the complications in land titles in an area in North Carolina granted to Sir George Carteret by King Charles II of Great Britain in 1663 in his article "The Granville District and Its Land

APRIL/MAY 1993

NAT'L AGRIC. LIBRARY
USDA
SERIALS RECEIVED

Records," North Carolina Historical Review, April 1993. Copies are available for \$7.00 from: North Carolina Historical Review, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2807.

European governments were concerned with the brewing industry in the Middle Ages according to R. W. Unger in his article "Technical Change in the Brewing Industry in Germany, the Low Countries and England in the Late Middle Ages," Journal of European Economic History, Fall 1992. Copies are available on request to: Banca di Roma, Servizio Studi, Viale Tupini, 180-00144 Roma, Italy.

RECENT BOOKS. Long Vistas: Women and Families on Colorado Homesteads, by Kathleen Harris (University Press of Colorado, P. O. Box 849, Niwot, Colorado, CO 80544. 1993). 224 pp., \$24.95. The Homestead Act of 1862, which opened homesteads to women as well as to men, brought about changes in family and economic life.

The Pennsylvania Barn: Its Origin, Evolution, and Distribution in North America, by Robert F. Ensminger (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21218-4319. 1992). 272 pp., \$39.95. The author traces the Swiss prototype and the evolution of the barn in America.

Comrades and Chicken Ranchers: The Story of a California Jewish Community, by Kenneth L. Kann (Cornell University Press, 512 E. State St., P. O. Box 250, Ithaca, NY 14851-0250. 1993). 336 pp., \$36.95. Based upon oral interviews, this book is a history of the transformation of Petaluma, California, from a small-town agricultural community into a San Francisco bedroom community.

Farming the Home Place: A Japanese American Community in California, 1919-1982, by Valerie J. Matsumoto (Cornell University Press, 512 E. State St., P. O. Box 250, Ithaca, NY 14851-0250. 1993). 272 pp., \$35.00. An account of three generations of women and men in a Japanese American farming community known as Cortez Colony.

Family farms in North Andover, Newburyport, North Hatfield, Hawley, and Ipswich are the subjects of profiles in Founding Farms: Portraits of Five Massachusetts Family Farms, by Michael E. C. Gery and contains 102 photographs by Stan Sherer (University of Massachusetts Press, P. O. Box 429, Amherst, MA 01004. 1993). 144 pp., cloth \$40.00, paper \$19.95. The author documents the long lives of five of the oldest farms in Massachusetts. Each has remained in the same family for more than two, sometimes three centuries and each has a distinctive history.

AWARDS. The Agricultural History Society has announced its awards for work in agricultural history for 1992. The Saloutos Memorial Award in Agricultural History for the best book was divided between Winifred Rothenberg for her book, From Market Place to a Market Economy, and R. Douglas Hurt for Agriculture and Slavery in Missouri's Little Dixie. The Carstensen Award for the best article published in Agricultural History went to Tracy A. Campbell for his "The Limits of Agrarian Action: The 1908 Kentucky Tobacco Strike." The Everett E. Edwards Memorial Award for the best article submitted by a student was won by Mary Eschelbach-Gregson for an article on specialization in Midwestern agriculture.

The Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, established to advance the study and understanding of the history of the United States during the period 1865-1917, awards a biennial prize of \$500 for the best article treating any aspect of United States history during this period, including agricultural history, published by a graduate student or recent doctorate. Graduate students may join the Society for five dollars per year; for an additional twenty dollars, new members receive the Hayes Historical Journal. For information, please contact: Stacy A. Cordery, Department of History, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:

VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4783.



a \$41\$
A46
C2

THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 6

JUNE 1993

EDITORSHIP OPEN. The Agricultural History seeks a new academic home for its journal, *Agricultural History*, beginning July 1, 1994, with some institutional support, preferably at a land-grant university and/or one with a strong interest in rural studies, and with a qualified senior faculty person to serve as Editor for a five-year term, subject to renewal. Support would be needed for an Assistant Editor (currently a half-time appointment), for office space, and for such expenses as postage, telephone service, and travel to the Society's meetings and symposia, plus released time for the Editor (currently one-third of teaching assignments), and an Associate Editor. Please apply to the Society's current President, Pete Daniel, Director, Agriculture and Natural Resources Division, Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560 or to Professor Morton Rothstein, Editor, History Department, University of California, Davis, CA 95606 by October 1, 1993.

CALL FOR PAPERS. The Agricultural History Society, in conjunction with the Department of History at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Arkansas, invites proposals for papers and sessions for a symposium on AGRIBUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE, to be held June 17-19, 1994 in Little Rock. Deadline for submission is December 1, 1993. Please send proposals to: C. Fred Williams, Department of History, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801 South University Ave., Little Rock, AR 72204.

RECENT BOOKS. *Western Ways: Images of the American West*, by Bruce I. Bustard (National Archives, NEDC Dept. 310, P. O. Box 100793, Atlanta, GA 30384. 1993). 124 pp., \$9.95 paper. Based upon a National Archives exhibition, this book explores the broader themes of the West's evolution from the early 19th century to the present.

From Market Places to a Market Economy, by Winifred Barr Rothenberg (University of Chicago Press, 5801 South Ellis Ave., Chicago, IL 60637.

1992). 276 pp., \$37.50. The author documents the emergence of a market economy in rural Massachusetts between 1785 and 1800, confirming that market-led growth in Massachusetts agriculture lay at the origins of the American industrial revolution.

Building Hoover Dam: An Oral History of the Great Depression, by Andrew J. Dunar and Dennis McBride (Twayne Publishers, 866 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. 1993). \$15.95 paper, \$27.95 cloth. Based upon the oral histories of the men, women, and children, many rural, who were concerned with the building of the dam.

Williamsburg's Joseph Prentis: His Monthly Kalender & Garden Book, by Joseph Prentis (The American Botanist Booksellers, P. O. Box 532, Chillicothe, IL 61523. 1992). 65 pp., wraps. \$18.00. This is the first publication of a manuscript describing planting and cultivation instructions for an American garden from 1775. Included in the manuscript are dates of planting and the varieties that Judge Prentis sowed in his garden.

The Great Thirst: Californians and Water, by Norris Hundley, Jr. (University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94720. 1992). 551 pp., \$25.00. The author points out that the debate over water used for agriculture and urban growth has shifted from not only who controls the water but towards what end that control is exercised.

NEW OFFICERS. The Agricultural History Society has announced that the following officers have been elected for 1993-94: President: Pete Daniel, Smithsonian Institution; Vice-President: Robert McMath, Georgia Institute of Technology; Executive Committee (3-year terms): Steven Hahn, University of California-San Diego and Jeremy Atack, University of Illinois; and Nominating Committee (3-year term): Anne Patton Malone, Illinois State University. The Executive Committee has also announced that Lowell K. Dyson, U. S. Department of Agriculture, will succeed Wayne Rasmussen as Executive

Secretary-Treasurer, effective July 1, 1993. Mr. Rasmussen will become Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

CURRENT JOURNALS. The following articles appear in the Winter 1993 issue of Agricultural History: Kenneth Ng and Nancy Virts, in "The Black-White Income Gap in 1880" argue that Blacks were only slightly poorer than rural southern whites at this period in time; Mary Eschelbach-Gregson suggests, in her article, "Specialization in Late-Nineteenth-Midwestern Agriculture: Missouri as a Test Case," that commercialization fostered diversification; David E. Wright, in "Alcohol Wrecks a Marriage: The Farm Chemurgic Movement and the USDA in the Alcohol Fuels Campaign in the Spring of 1993," states that while they did not achieve their goals, the leaders of the farm chemurgic movement between World War I and World War II had an effective and productive influence when science and technology were transforming American agriculture in spite of lack of support by the Department of Agriculture; Nessy Allen, in "Textile Physics and the Wool Industry: an Australian Woman Scientist's Contribution," traces the work of Rachel Makinson, a textile physicist, in explicating the properties of wool fiber. Copies of the issue are \$8.00 from: University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94720.

In a popular, illustrated article, "Ancient Tech," in the Summer 1993 issue of American Heritage of Invention and Technology, Aurelia C. Scott discusses New Mexican irrigation systems that have been in continuous use since the first Spanish settlers arrived, and according to her account, are based upon the technology of the Spanish Moors' beginnings in the Near East. Inquiries regarding copies may be addressed to: American Heritage, 60 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010.

The experiences of a young woman traveling from Denver to a remote ranch in central Wyoming in 1902 to teach at a one-room school, based upon her letters and journals edited by Barbara Love and Frances Love Froidevaux, appears in the Spring 1993 issue of Montana: The Magazine of Western History. Copies are available for \$8.00 from: Montana Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts St., P. O. Box 201210, Helena, MT 59620-1201.

The criticisms of Louis Bromfield of American agriculture in the 1940's and his message of ecology are discussed by Randal Beaman, in "Louis Bromfield versus the 'Age of Irrigation,'" Environmental History Review, Spring 1993.

Bromfield was an advocate of what today is called "alternative agriculture." Copies of the issue are \$6.00 from: Environmental History Review, Center for Technology Studies, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ 07102.

"Long-term Changes in US Agricultural Output per Worker, 1800-1900," Economic History Review, May 1993, by Thomas Weiss is a thorough reexamination of the numerous earlier studies of the subject and the statistical data upon which they were based. The revised productivity statistics developed by Weiss indicate that the Civil War may, indeed, have marked a point of transition from the slower growing ante-bellum period to the more mechanized faster growing agriculture that followed. Please send orders for the issue at \$31.00 to: Marston Book Services, P. O. Box 87, Oxford OX2 0DT, England.

"Challenging Industrialization: The Rekindling of Agrarian Protest in a Modern Agriculture, 1977-1987," Studies in American Political Development, Spring 1993, by William P. Browne explores why a farmer-led social movement mobilized against federal government policy in the late twentieth century. It also analyzes where that revolt may lead and whether it was different from previous farm protests. Please send orders for the issue at \$5.00 to: Cambridge University Press, 32 E. 57th St., New York, NY 10022.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:

VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4788.



THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 7

JULY 1993

MEETINGS. The American Association for State and Local History's 53rd Annual Meeting will be held September 8-11, 1993 in Columbus, Ohio. The theme of the meeting is "Aspirations and Challenges: What Happens Next?" More than 60 workshops, round-table discussions, and panel sessions are scheduled. Robert C. Wilburn, president and chief executive officer of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is the keynote speaker. On September 8, at 1:00 p.m., Dr. Wilburn will discuss the aspirations and challenges facing historical organizations from his perspective as director of an institution internationally recognized for its leadership in the preservation and interpretation of history. For registration information, please call the AASLH offices at: (615) 255-2971, or write: AASLH, 530 Church St., Suite 600, Nashville, TN 37219.

The Society for the History of Technology will hold its 1993 annual meeting in Washington, DC, from October 14-17 at the Key Bridge Marriott. For further information, please write to: Department of Social Sciences, 1400 Townsend Drive, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI 49931-1295.

On November 8-9, 1993, Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, will be the site of a two-day conference exploring biological thought and agricultural practices during Washington's life and times. Those wishing to attend without presenting a paper can have their names added to the invitation list as space permits. A keynote address and reception will take place at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., on the evening of November 8. Please write to: Terry Gibson, Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, Mount Vernon, VA 22121.

The 37th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, March 10-12, 1994. Proposals for papers and sessions in all areas of history are welcome. Such proposals, accompanied with one-page abstract and vitae, should be sent by October 15, 1993. For further information, please contact: Dale Gaedert,

Chair MVHC, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182.

CALL FOR PAPERS. The Rural Studies Section of the Western Social Science Association will meet in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 20-23, 1994. Proposals for papers, panels, and sessions dealing with rural related topics are welcome. Proposals consisting of a one-page prospectus and a brief vita should be sent to: Mark Friedberger, Department of History, Texas Tech University, Box 41013, Lubbock, TX 79409-1013. Deadline is November 1, 1993.

HISTORIC IRON CONFERENCE. A week-end conference entitled "Iron: From Farmhouse to Furrow" was held in late February 1993 at the Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site in Berks County, Pennsylvania. Located within French Creek State Park, Hopewell was a charcoal-fueled furnace which produced pig iron and finished castings from 1771 until 1883. The water powered blast furnace with its iron master's mansion, farm, blacksmith shop, company store, church, and tenant houses, is one of the finest example of an American "iron plantation." Maintained by the National Park Service, the restoration interprets not only the historic processes of iron making but the economics and lifestyle of an early 19th century iron community. The 3-day conference which was organized by the Mid-Atlantic chapter of the Association for Living History Farms and Agricultural Museums (MAALHFAM) included blacksmiths and staff from other historic sites as well as volunteer and independent iron enthusiasts. If you are interested in attending future MAALHFAM conferences, please write: Steve Miller, Landis Valley Museum, 2451 Kissel Hill Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601. If you are interested in a book about Hopewell Furnace with an overview of historic ironmaking, please send \$4.75 for a copy, plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling to: Kelley Connor, Hopewell Furnace NHS, #2 Mark Bird Lane, Elverson, PA 19520.

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY'S Special Collections Unit has a fine

collection of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) photographs that are part of its Forest Service Historical Photo Collection. The Library is looking for additional photographs to augment pictorial knowledge of this unique era in the history of the United States. The staff would be most pleased to hear from you if you have photographs related to the CCC or its activities that could be donated for permanent retention and use by the Library. Please contact: Alan Fusonie, Head, Special Collections, Room 1402, National Agricultural Library, 10301 Baltimore Blvd., Beltsville, MD 20705-5876; TTY: (301) 504-6856; FAX (301) 504-7098.

POMEROY LIVING HISTORY FARM (20902 NE Lucia Falls Rd., Yacolt, WA 98675) recently received a grant to expand and develop its educational programs to reach 2,000 new students. The Farm provides living history field trips on early 20th century farm life for students in grades 2-6, and farm and farm animal experiences for students in grades K-1.

RECENT BOOKS. America's Iceman, by Joseph C. Jones, Jr. (Jobeco Books, 102240 Greentree Court, Olathe, KS 66061. Reissued 1993). \$21.95 paper. First published in 1985, this book is an illustrated history of the "natural" ice business, a rural industry that provided off-season employment opportunities for farmers.

On Rims and Ridges: The Los Alamos Area Since 1880, by Hal K. Rothman (University of Nebraska Press, 901 North 17th, Lincoln, NE 68588-0520. 1992). 375 pp., \$45.00. The Los Alamos area, according to the author, characterizes the struggle between institutions and environmental values common throughout the American West.

CURRENT JOURNALS. Mary Eschelbach-Gregson discusses "Rural Response to Increased Demand: Crop Choice in the Midwest, 1860-1880," in the June 1992 issue of the Journal of Economic History. Kris Inwood and Phyllis Wagstaff report on The Survival of Handloom Weaving in Rural Canada Cira 1870 in the same issue. Copies are available for \$10.00 from: Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th St., New York, NY 10111-42113.

Maps, according to Gregory H. Nobles in "Straight Lines and Stability: Mapping the Political Order of the Anglo-American Frontier," Journal of American History, June 1993, are historical documents that are selective statements of control and authority and are useful in understanding

problems of frontiers. Copies are available for \$20.00 from: Organization of American Historians, 112 North Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199.

Problems of writing the history of isolated areas are briefly discussed by Ann Hubber, "Living on the River of No Return: Community History and Idaho's Salmon River Settlements," in the newsletter PHS Network, Spring 1993. For copies, please contact: Lindsey Reed, Department of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

Rachel Carson's background and work in biology as a Federal government employee enabled her to write Silent Spring, a book which altered the course of environmental history. Linda J. Lear traces this story in "Rachel Carson's Silent Spring," in the Summer 1993 issue of the Environmental History Review. The issue is \$6.00 from: Environmental History Review, Center for Technology Studies, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ 07012.

"RFD and the Grange," by George H. Spies appear in the newsletter Grange History, Spring 1993. The author states that without the efforts of the Grange, the isolation of the American farmer, due to poor roads, poor communications, and poor access to the marketplace, would have persisted. For copies, please contact: Grange Studies Group, c/o Spies Farms, 2694 SR 39, NW, Dover, OH 44622.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:
VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-4788.



THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 8

AUGUST 1993

HISTORICAL STATISTICS. The Historical Labor Statistics Project at the University of California has available on disks Bureau of Labor Statistics data from 1879 to 1903 for 36 states. The collection is based upon data from the separate bureaus of labor statistics established by the states during this period. The data covers a number of occupations, including farm workers, farmers, and workers in farm industries. For a listing of the data sets available, please write: Roger Ransom, Laboratory for Historical Research, Department of History, University of California, Riverside, CA 93521.

MEETINGS. The Jerusalem Artichoke Affair and the Selling of a New Crop. This one-day conference will be held on Saturday, November 6, 1993, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Lecture Center, Southwest State University, Marshall, Minnesota. Dr. Joseph Amato, author of The Great Jerusalem Artichoke Circus, published by the University of Minnesota Press at Minneapolis, will focus on the history, rise and fall of the artichoke in the Upper Midwest in the early 1980's. He will also provide an account of the legal battles that followed the downfall of the scheme's initial promoters.

The Economic History Association will hold its annual meeting in Tucson, Arizona, October 1-3, 1993. For information, please write: William H. Becker, Department of History, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052.

The Association for Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums is holding its annual meeting and conference on June 19-23, 1994 at Russell Sage College in Troy, New York. The theme for the 1994 ALHFAM conference is "The Meeting of the Waters: Communities at Work." Participants will explore the roles and interrelationships of work and community in both agrarian and industrial settings, as well as contemporary issues and concerns within the museum field. A list of possible topics is available from the Program Chair upon request. Proposals should include a one-page summary of each presentation and a resume for each presenter.

Presenters should submit their presentation in written form prior to the conference. All speakers are expected to register either for the full meeting or for the day on which they speak. Deadline for proposals is December 1, 1993. Please forward submissions to: Eric Paige, Program Chair, Cooperstown Graduate Program, P. O. Box 800, Cooperstown, NY 13326. (607) 547-2586. FAX (607) 547-5384.

RECENT BOOKS. The Development of American Agriculture: A Historical Analysis, by Williard W. Cochrane (University of Minnesota Press, 2037 University Ave., S. E., Minneapolis, MN 55455-3092, Rev. ed., 1993). 500 pp., \$19.95 paper. This widely used volume, first published in 1979, has been extensively revised and brought up to date.

Reforming Farm Policy, by Willard W. Cochrane and C. Ford Runge (Iowa State University Press, 2121 S. State Ave., Ames, IA 50010). 279 pp., \$37.75. The authors review past agricultural policies and advance proposals for changes. In addition to commodity price and income supports, they review most of the major issues addressed in recent farm bills.

The Great Jerusalem Artichoke Circus: The Buying and Selling of the American Dream, by Joseph A. Amato (University of Minnesota Press, 2037 University Ave., S. E., Minneapolis, MN 5545-3092). 256 pp., paper \$16.95. cloth, \$44.95. The author tells the story of the failed attempt by a dishonest businessman to introduce this new crop to a depressed agricultural region of the United States.

CURRENT JOURNALS. The Spring 1993 issue of Agricultural History under the guest editorship of Joan M. Jensen and Nancy Grey Osterud, contains 14 articles on "American Rural and Farm Women in Historical Perspective." They are: Nancy Grey Osterud, "Gender and the Transition to Capitalism in Rural America;" Rebecca Sharples, "Southern Women and the Land;" Karen V. Hansen, "The Power of Talk in Antebellum

New England;" Jane M. Pederson, "Gender, Justice, and a Wisconsin Lynching;" Kathleen R. Babbitt, "The Productive Farm Woman and the Extension Home Economist in New York State, 1920-1940;" Jane Hutchison, "Better Homes and Gullah;" Janet M. Labrie, "The Depiction of Women's Field Work in Rural Fiction;" Steven D. Reschley and Katherine Jellison, "Production Patterns, Consumption Strategies, and Gender Relations in Amish and Non-Amish Farm Households in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania;" Mary Neth, "Leisure and Generational Change: Farm Youths in the Midwest, 1910-1940;" Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, "Separation and Sorrow: A Farm Woman's Life, 1935-1941;" Marilyn P. Watkins, "Political Activism and Community-Building Among Alliance and Grange Women in Western Washington, 1892-1925;" William C. Pratt, "Women and the Farm Revolt of the 1930's;" Mark Friedberger, "Women Advocates in the Iowa Farm Crisis of the 1980's;" and Anne B. Effland, Denise M. Rogers, and Valerie Grim, "Women as Agricultural Landowners: What Do We Know About Them?." Copies of the issue are available from: Periodicals Department, University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94720 for \$6.75 each.

In the April 1993 issue of Technology and Culture, Deborah Fitzgerald concludes in "Farmers Deskilled: Hybrid Corn and Farmers' Work" that hybrid corn usurped the skill and understanding of existing corn farmers. In the same issue, Paolo Palladino discusses "Between Craft and Science: Plant Breeding, Mendelian Genetics, and British Universities, 1900-1920." The University of Chicago Press, P.O. Box 37005, Chicago, IL 60637 has copies available for \$7.25.

The Geographical Review, April 1992, contains articles historical in nature on "Flood Damage to the Rice Crop in Bangladesh," by Bimal Kanti Paul and Herun Rasid; and "Diffusion of Mesoamerican Food Complex to Southeastern Europe," by Jean Andrews. Copies are available for \$20.00 each from: Geographical Review, Suite 600, 156 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010.

The British Agricultural History Review contains the following articles in Volume 41, 1993, Part I: "The Agricultural Labourers' Standard of Living in Lincolnshire, 1790-1840: Social Protest and Public Order," by T. L. Richardson; "From Black-Face to White-Face: An Aspect of the Agricultural Revolution in Norfolk," by Susanna Wade Martens; "The Agricultural Pollution of Watercourses: The Precedent Set by the Beet-sugar and Milk

Industries," by John Sheal; "British Economic Warfare in the Far East and the Australian Wool Industry," by Kosmas Tsokhas; and "A Fair Field Once Full of Folk: Agrarian Change in an Era of Population Decline, 1348-1500," by Bruce M. S. Campbell. Copies are available for 14 British pounds per copy from: Dr. R. Perren, Secretary, BAHS, Department of History, The University, Aberdeen AB9 2UB, United Kingdom.

The University of Delaware's Cooperative Extension are offering free copies of the 20-page biography of Harry Hayward, first Dean of Agriculture and Director of Extension at the University of Delaware. This is a significant part of the historical record of the Land Grant system of colleges and universities. Before Hayward went to Delaware in 1906, the state's college of agriculture covered the subject in name only. With the cooperation and support he received from the Delaware Grange, Hayward was one of the pioneers of scientific farm management. In 1910 Hayward was instrumental in the founding of the American Farm Management Association, which in 1919 became the present American Agricultural Economics Association. For a free copy, please write: Gerald F. Vaughn, Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19717-1303.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives has a collection of some 850 photographs produced by the Works Progress Administration between 1936-1941. The WPA produced these images as part of a project to document Kentucky life. A complete photocopy set of these photos is available in the Archives at 300 Coffee Tree Road in Frankfort, Kentucky.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:
VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4788.



THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1993

NAT'L LIBRARY
USDA

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY INFORMATION. A group of original Thomas Jefferson letters was discovered recently by Anne B. W. Effland, Historian with the Economic Research Service, USDA, in a collection at the National Agricultural Library. The eleven letters, some to Jefferson and others from him in his own hand, document Jefferson's interest in agriculture. They range in date from 1788 to 1819 and refer to such subjects as his invention of a mould board plow, purchasing and trading new types of seed and nursery stock, creating a state agricultural society, and his relations with French and British agricultural societies. Alan Fusonie, Director of Special Collections at NAL, has created a preliminary inventory of the letters and had their authenticity verified by Library of Congress staff. The discovery has received attention from a number of national print, radio, and television news organizations, including the Washington Post, CBS, CNN, and NPR.

On July 12, 1993, the National Agricultural Library celebrated the 3,000,000th record in the AGRICOLA (AGRICultural OnLine Access) database. The database consists of bibliographic records for journal articles, monographs, theses, patents, software, audiovisual materials, and technical reports relating to all aspects of agriculture. Prior to 1984 AGRICOLA was primarily an index to the collection of the National Agricultural Library, which is the largest collection of agricultural literature in the world with over 2.2 million volumes. Since 1984 NAL has expanded the scope of AGRICOLA to include literature citations for material held in cooperating libraries. The NAL staff and its cooperators regularly scan all issues of over 2,500 journal titles for input to the database. The library began to create the database in 1965. Since 1970 AGRICOLA has been available in magnetic tape, and has been on-line from several vendors during most of the intervening time. More recently, it has been available on CD-ROM discs. Tom Bryant, Jr., Executive Director of the Associates of the

National Agricultural Library, Inc., 1555 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Suite 200, Washington, D. C. 20036, presented a plaque to the library in commemoration of the 3 millionth record.

The National Agricultural Library has selected American Farmland Trust (AFT) to operate the nation's first Farmland Information Center. AFT, a national farmland conservation group based in Washington, D. C., will work with NAL's Alternative Farming Systems Information Center (AFSIC) to create an electronically based farmland information storage and retrieval system that is accessible to the public. AFT's research and education facility in De Kalb, Illinois, will administer the new center.

As a Farmland Information Center, AFT will collect and distribute information on the types, classifications, and locations of farmland, soils, and related natural resources; urban development and growth patterns affecting agricultural land use and its impact on the environment; planning and other tools for farmland protection; and the economic, social, and environmental costs of protecting farmland. NAL's Alternative Farming Systems Information Center was established by Congress to encourage research, education, and information delivery about farming systems that preserve the natural resource base while maintaining economic viability. AFSIC provides information on farming methods that maintain the health and productivity of natural resources, as well as that of United States farming. For additional information, please contact: Jane Gates, Coordinator, Alternative Farming Systems Information Center, National Agricultural Library, Room 304, 10301 Baltimore Blvd., Beltsville, MD 20705-2351. (301) 504-6559; TTY: (301) 504-6856; FAX: (301) 504-6409.

MEETING. Indian Agriculture--A Tradition, hosted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The Intertribal Agriculture Council Symposium will be held in Tampa, Florida, November 2-5, 1993 at the Sheraton Inn Tampa and Conference Center.

Eastern Area Delegate and IAC Vice President, Fred Smith, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida will be the hosts for the Seventh Annual Indian Agriculture Symposium. Workshops offered include: USDA programs, irrigation, sustainable agriculture, citrus production, just to mention a few. Other sessions being prepared will have both regional and national perspective. Different regions will learn about what is going on in agriculture on the different reservations. For more information, please contact: IAC, 100 North 27th St., Suite 500, Billings, MT 59101.

CALL FOR SCULPTORS. In October 1994, the Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village will host an exhibition of sculptors with agricultural and rural life themes. The Museum is located south of Delaware State University on Route 13 in Dover, Delaware. For further information, this unique exhibit is inviting artists interested in participating to please contact: Mary Kopco, Curator (302) 734-1618; or guest curator, Steve Schlesinger (302) 734-9112 before December 1993.

CONFERENCES. A conference on "Turner and His Frontiers: Legacies and Opportunities," will be held at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, on November 12-13, 1993. For information, please write: R. David Myers, State Historical Society of Wisconsin k816 State St., Madison, WI 53706.

A conference on environmental history and ethics in the West will be held November 13-14, 1993, in Prescott, Arizona. For information, please write: Laura Stone, Arizona Humanities Council, 1242 N. Central, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

PUBLICATIONS. Wagon Wheel Kitchens: Food on the Oregon Trail, by Jacqueline Williams (University of Kansas Press, 2501 W. 15th St., Lawrence, KS 66049-3904, 1993). 244 pp., paper \$17.95, cloth \$32.95. The author uses original accounts to recreate the highs and lows of cooking and eating on the Oregon Trail.

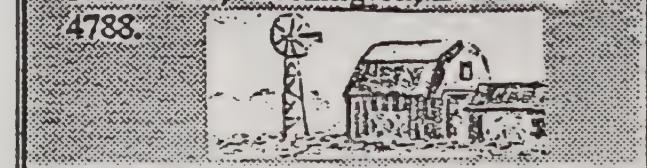
Eugene Beverly Ferris and Agricultural Science in the Lower South, by Roy V. Scott (Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS 1991). 235 pp., \$20.00. Ferris was an agricultural chemist whose work in Mississippi on soils, farming systems, and livestock production spanned the first half of the twentieth century.

The Black Image in the New Deal: The Politics of FSA Photography, by Nicholas Natanson

(University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, TN, 1992). 305 pp., paper, \$18.95, cloth, \$42.50. The author concludes that the coverage of Blacks by photographers for the Farm Security Administration between 1935 and 1945 was not only proportional but greater and more varied than that of photographs from other sources.

NEW MUSEUM. Baltimore County's newest museum will open on October 10, 1993 in Texas, Maryland near Cockeysville. The museum was built by the county 15 years ago to replace a 19th-century barn destroyed by fire in the 1970's. It has stored part of the Baltimore County Historical Society's collection of farm and farm-home implements. The museum will show how education and science combined to advance American agriculture between the Civil War and World War II. A plaque will honor Dr. Dickinson Gorsuch, veterinarian and cattle breeder who left the legacy to encourage public education in agricultural practices and animal husbandry. Using the theme, "Agriculture and Science," the barn has been divided into seven bays for exhibits ranging from pictures and documents illustrating farm life in the early years of the 20th century, to implements large and small, including a horse-drawn roller made from a log, a two-horse Rockaway carriage and a one-horse sleigh and simple hand planters. A restored steam-powered Holland Manufacturing Company portable sawmill could be hauled to cut lumber at the logging site. After its formal premier, the museum will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturdays at 9811 Van Buren Lane, Texas, Maryland.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to:
VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4788.



2 S419
A 46
c5

THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 1993

CALLS FOR PAPERS. The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic solicits proposals for panels or individual papers to be presented at its 1994 meeting, to be held July 14-17 at Boston College in Boston, Massachusetts. The Society's interests cover all aspects of the history of the early Republic, including rural history. For each paper proposed, please submit a brief abstract and a short vitae of each participant to: David Moltke-Hansen, Director, Southern Historical Collection, CB #3926, Wilson Library, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890. (FAX: 919-962-0484), Attn: SHEAR.

A Symposium on Agribusiness and International Agriculture will be held in 1994. This event is sponsored by the Agricultural History Society and hosted by the Department of History and the Center for Arkansas Studies at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The Symposium will also include a tour of the Arkansas Delta, a visit to Winrock International (a foundation established by the late Winthrop Rockefeller to promote agriculture in developing nations throughout the world), and a sample of Arkansas cuisine (catfish, chicken, rice, etc.). Proposals for both individual papers and panels are welcome. For further information, please contact: C. Fred Williams, Program/Local Arrangements Committee, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801 S. University, Little Rock, AR 72204-1099. (501) 569-3235. FAX (501) 569-3039.

An interdisciplinary conference on society and economy in the nineteenth-century Valley of Virginia will be held in the spring of 1994 at Virginia Military Institute. Possible topics include economic activity, especially agriculture but also nonfarm economic endeavors; material culture; household and family; gender relations; and slavery and its aftermath. Proposals from scholars in disciplines other than history, e.g., American studies, anthropology, archeology, demography, economics, environmental studies, and folklore, are welcome. To promote comparative perspectives, proposals not on the Valley per se are encouraged, if they address methodological or substantive issues that arise in the analysis and interpretation of

agrarian, small-town societies of the post-frontier era in middle-America. The goals of this conference are to assess current scholarship on the nineteenth-century Valley of Virginia and to suggest directions for future research. The organizers intend to edit papers resulting from this conference for publication as a collection of essays. For further information, please contact: Kenneth E. Koons, Department of History and Politics, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA 24450. (703) 464-7338 or Warren R. Hofstra, Community History Project, Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA 22601. (703) 665-4564.

The Washburn Humanities Center in association with the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine are sponsoring the second annual conference on Northern New England in the Nineteenth Century, June 9-11, 1994. The topic of the conference is "Physical and Cultural Landscapes" and will be held at the Washburn-Norlands Living History Center, a 445-acre site containing a restored one room school house, farmer's cottage, free standing library, 200 seat 1828 Universalist church, and the 1867 Washburn mansion. Submission of papers must represent a broad range of disciplines illustrating differences and commonalities within the region of northern New England during the 19th century. Topics might include but are not limited to the general subjects of agriculture, climate, education, popular culture, art, and literature. This conference is designed to illuminate the social, cultural, political, and economic history of northern New England, the region's impact on the nation and the nation's on the region. Please submit a one-page abstract and a one-page vita by January 31, 1994 to: Billie Gammon, Washburn Humanities Center, R. R. 2, Box 3395, Livermore Falls, ME 04254. (207) 897-4366. (Previously published material will not be accepted).

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION. During the move of records to the new Archives II Building, most records will be closed and reopened at the record group level. In other words, subject clusters will not be closed as a whole. Rather, the individual record groups

within the cluster will be closed, moved, and then reopened to researchers. USDA records will be moved between December 1993 and September 1994. The move will continue through 1996, and during that time, various record groups will be closed for research and reference activities, including requests for information and reproductions. If you are planning a research trip to Washington within the next three years, please verify with each reference branch that records you will want to see will be available. For questions about the move dates, please call: (202) 501-5400.

RECENT BOOKS. Quantitative Studies in Agrarian History, by Morton Rothstein and Daniel Field (Iowa State University Press, 2121 S. State Ave., Ames, IA 50010). 288 pp. (1993). \$39.95. The essays complement each other in addressing issues of agrarian history, especially in demonstrating the potential of relatively new and rapidly developing research techniques and technology.

Food and Agricultural Policy: Economics and Politics, (2nd Ed.), by H. G. Halcrow, R. G. F. Spitze, and J. E. Allen-Smith (McGraw-Hill College Division, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020. 1993). \$41.50. The authors emphasize the broad issues of contemporary public policy, including farm programs, trade, natural resources, agricultural credit, environment, rural development.

A Round Indiana: Round Barns in the Hoosier State, by John T. Hanou (Purdue University Press, 1532 S. Campus Courts-B, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1532. 1993). 136 pp. \$29.95 cloth; \$19.95 paper. Of the 226 round barns known to have been built in Indiana, only 111 remained as of 1992. The author focuses on the rise and fall of these barns.

Outstanding in His Field: Perspectives on American Agriculture in Honor of Wayne D. Rasmussen, edited by Frederick V. Carstensen, Morton Rothstein, and Joseph A. Swanson (Iowa State University Press, 2121 S. State Ave., Ames, IA 50010. 1993). 158 pp., \$34.95. A collection of studies in agricultural history by James H. Shideler, Gavin Wright, Hal S. Barron, Jeremy Atack and Fred Bateman, Pete Daniel, Harold D. Woodman, Robert C. McMath, Jr., and Louis Ferleger. The papers were presented at a seminar in Washington, D. C.

Women of the Range: Women's Role in the Texas Beef Cattle Industry, by Elizabeth Maret (Texas

Press A & M University Press, John H. Lindsey Building, College Station, TX 77843-4354. 1993). 192 pp., paper \$12.95, cloth, \$32.00. A study of ranching in Texas from the perspective of women.

CURRENT JOURNALS. The Summer 1993 issue of Agricultural History contains the following articles: Judith A. Carney, "From Hands to Tutors: African Slave Expertise in the South Carolina Rice Economy," in which she argues that the agronomic knowledge critical to rice's development in South Carolina came from slaves; Louis Ferleger, "Sharecropping Contracts in the Late-Nineteenth Century South," finds that sharecropping discouraged landlords from modernizing farm practices; Rodney J. Valentine, "Pioneer Settlers' Abuse of Land Laws in the Nineteenth Century: The Case of the Boise River Valley, Idaho," asserts that federal land laws worked well enough, helping hundreds of thousands of ordinary Americans establish farms; and Alan I Marcus, "The Newest Knowledge of Nutrition: Wise Burroughs, DES, and Modern Meat," discusses the development of modern techniques in raising meat animals.

In the September 1993 issue of the Journal of Economic History, Ann M. Carlos and Frank D. Lewis, "Indians, the Beaver, and the Bay: The Economics of Depletion in the Lands of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1700-1783," suggest that the depletion of the beaver was due to French competition; and Lee A. Craig and Thomas Weiss, "Agricultural Productivity Growth During the Decade of the Civil War," indicate that new evidence suggests that output per agricultural worker grew faster between 1860 and 1870 than during any other decade of the nineteenth century.

This newsletter is published by
the Economic Research Service's
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, Douglas E. Bowers,
Chief Historian. It will be
sent upon request to anyone
interested. Please mail all
information, comments, and
suggestions to:
VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor,
Agricultural and Rural History
Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA,
1301 New York Ave. N.W.,
Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-
4788.



THE AGRICULTURAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NUMBERS 11/12

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1993

VIDEO, "AMERICAN FORESTS."

"America's Forests: A History of Resiliency and Recovery," is a video version of a similar title of a booklet by USDA Forest Service assistant director of forest planning Douglas MacCleery. The second printing (1993) of this booklet, 58 pages and illustrations is \$6.95 plus shipping. Please order from: Forest History Society, 701 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701. The monograph and 23-minute video recount how the North American forest was removed for agriculture and commerce across much of the nation from 1600 to 1900. The video brings together rare film footage and turn of the century photographs to graphically depict the forest, watershed, wildlife conditions which led to our national conservation movement. The focus is on how existing forests compare to the forests of the past and the public policies and other factors that have most affected current forest conditions.

JEFFERSON LETTERS. Anne B. W. Effland, Historian, Agricultural and Rural History Section, Economic Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has discovered eleven original letters by Thomas Jefferson. The letters were in the Special Collections of the National Agricultural Library. The news media immediately covered this major event through press, television, and radio. Dr. Effland, Alan Fusonie, Head, Special Collections, NAL; and Brian Norris, Public Affairs Officer, NAL have written an account of the discovery of the letters. The letters show the application of science to agriculture and present, although his famous statement, "Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens...." This account is in the National Agricultural Library's Agricultural Libraries Information Notes, 19(8/9 (August/September 1993), pp. 1-16, back cover, illus. For a copy, please contact: U. S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Library, ALIN Editor, Room 204, Beltsville, MD 20705-2351. (301) 504-7937; NAL TTY (301) 504-6856; FAX: (301) 504-5472.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS. The Hoover Presidential Library Association, P. O. Box 696, West Branch, IA 52358, has announced its annual program of grants and fellowships for researchers to make trips to the Library and to use its facilities. Applications should be submitted by March 1, 1994.

PUBLICATIONS. The History of Agricultural Science and Technology: An Annotated International Bibliography, by R. Douglas Hurt and Mary Ellen Hurt (New York: Garland Publishing, Inc. 1994). 485 pp. \$75. This study includes 1,380 citations in 48 subject areas, including database indexing and abstracting services, reference works, women, veterinary medicine, entomology, chemistry, plant and animal genetics, agronomy, technology, meterology, entomology, biotechnology, nutrition, institutions, agricultural policy and the green revolution.

Uncle Henry: A Documentary Profile of the First Henry Wallace, by Richard Kirkendall (Iowa State University Press, 2121 S. State Ave., Ames, IA 50010. 1993). 259 pp. The Henry Wallace of this book was the founder of Wallace's Farmer, the father of one Secretary of Agriculture, and the grandfather of another. The account includes extensive quotations from Henry Wallace, brought together by perceptive comments by Kirkendall. He concludes that Wallace would have preferred the survival of a distinctly rural America to the triumph of the values of industrial capitalism.

Peasant Labor and Colonial Capital: Rural Bengal Since 1770, by Sugata Bose (Cambridge University Press, 40 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011-4211. 1993). 220 pp., \$35.96. The volume is a study of agrarian change under British colonial rule.

PROCEEDINGS. The Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, 325 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19106, has published its Proceedings for 1992-1993. It includes "An

Historical Overview of Agricultural Subsidies," by Wayne D. Rasmussen (pp. 6-12).

CURRENT JOURNALS. "Housekeeping of the Past" is a collection of eight papers dealing with food and household management is the subject of the latest thematic issue of Historical Archaeology (Vol. 27, No. 2). "Health, Sanitation and Foodways in Historical Archaeology" demonstrates how history, archeology and other fields complement each other, and how a better understanding of the historical past can only be obtained by an interdisciplinary approach. Single issues are available for \$12.50 plus \$1.75 for handling from: Society for Historical Archeology, Dept. NLR, P. O. Box 30446, Tucson, AZ 85715.

Sarah T. Bridges, Regional Archeologist with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeastern Region, Atlanta, Georgia. Phone (404) 331-0830, has written an article, "Okefenokee Swamp: The Land of Trembling Earth" in Federal Archeology Report, 6(3):6-7, illus (Fall 1993). Native Americans gave the swamp its name which is dotted with archeological remains, from Paleoindian sites, to 19th century pioneer and timber settlements, to sites associated with the early conservation efforts that accompanied the establishment of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in 1937. For a copy, please contact: National Park Service, Departmental Consulting Archeologist/Archaeological Assistance Division, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; or call: (202) 343-4101.

A brief popular history of "The Grange in the Western States," by Jeanne Davis appears in the Autumn 1993 issue of Grange History. For copies, please contact: George H. Spies, 117 Water St., No. 23, Beverly, MA 01915.

In Issue 2, Volume 8 of Rural Development Perspectives (ERS-ARED-USDA, Room 328 1301 New York Ave., N. W., Washington, DC 20005-4788) Judith E. Sommer, Fred K. Hines, and Mindy Pertrulis point out in their article, "Agriculture Still Key to Economic Health of the Rural Great Plains has declined 16.2 percent since 1930, but is still essential to the well-being of that region.

THE KLOCK HOMESTEAD was established on a steep hillside of the Mohawk River Valley in 1742. Its small stone house and Dutch barn served as a refuge in times of danger for the people of this isolated community during the French and Indian Wars and later in the American Revolution.

Johannes Klock established his frontier homestead on the Mohawk River as a fur trading post. The present Fort Klock property includes a Dutch Barn, a stone house, a blacksmith shop, and a one Farming is still practiced on the rolling open fields of the Mohawk Valley. Today, the rich soil and rural character of the place is attracting Amish families as well as families of Mohawk Indians. Fort Klock is open 9-5, daily except Mondays Mid-May thru Mid October. Groups by advanced 1 admission fee, none for children under 10. For further information, please contact: Fort Klock Historic Restoration, P. O. Box 42, St. Johnsville, NY 13452. (518) 568-7779.

MEADOWCROFT VILLAGE, soon to be renamed Meadowcroft Museum of Rural Life, is a 200-acre outdoor museum which interprets 16,000 years of human interaction with the environment in southwest Pennsylvania. Located 40 miles west of Pittsburgh, the museum property includes the Meadowcroft Rockshelter archaeological site, which was used by hunters from 14,000 B.C. to A.D. 1770, and is considered the oldest documented evidence of human life in eastern North America. The remaining portion of Meadowcroft's land has been farmed, lumbered and mined for coal since settled in the late 18th century. In 1969, the owners of the property, Albert and Delvin Miller, developed a living history village on the land using threatened historic structures moved from their original locations. Today, Meadowcroft is jointly administered by the Historic Society of Western Pennsylvania and the Meadowcroft Foundation.

This newsletter is published by the Economic Research Service's Agricultural and Rural History Section, Douglas E. Bowers, Chief Historian. It will be sent upon request to anyone interested. Please mail all information, comments, and suggestions to: VIVIAN B. WHITEHEAD, Editor, Agricultural and Rural History Section, NEH-ARED-ERS-USDA, 1301 New York Ave. N.W., Room 928, Washington, DC 20005-4788.

